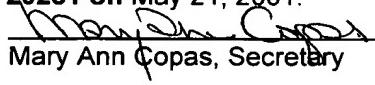




IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail in an envelope addressed to: Assistant Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231 on May 21, 2001.


Mary Ann Copas, Secretary

In the Application of Herbert Gust

Ser.No.: 09/130,593

Filed: August 7, 1998

For: COMPONENT COMPRISED OF AT LEAST ONE SUPPORT MEMBER AND AT LEAST ONE PART CONNECTED THERETO AS WELL AS METHOD FOR MANUFACTURING A CONNECTION BETWEEN A SUPPORT MEMBER AND A PART OF SUCH COMPONENT

Art Unit: 1722

Examiner: John J. Figueroa

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Washington, DC 20231

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AMENDMENT IN RESPONSE TO FINAL OFFICE ACTION DATED 11/21/00

Dear Sir:

In response to the outstanding Office Action, please amend the above-identified application as follows.

IN THE CLAIMS:

1. A component comprising at least one support member (1) having a first